

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed the Senate on May 4, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 24, 2017: Yeas 145, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved June 1, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

**ACCOMMODATION OF A DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING
STUDENT IN DRIVER EDUCATION; AUTHORIZING A FEE**

CHAPTER 415

S.B. No. 1051

AN ACT

relating to the accommodation of a deaf or hard of hearing student in driver education; authorizing a fee.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 1001, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 1001.059 to read as follows:

Sec. 1001.059. DEPARTMENT DRIVER EDUCATION COURSE FOR DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS. (a) *The department shall:*

(1) *create a driver education course for minors and adults that presents the course curriculum in American Sign Language; and*

(2) *make the course described by Subdivision (1) available on the department's Internet website.*

(b) *The department may collaborate with another state agency or contract with a licensed driver education school or instructor to create the course.*

(c) *The commission by rule shall establish a fee for the course. The fee established under this section:*

(1) *is in addition to a fee charged for a certificate for the course; and*

(2) *must be in an amount that is:*

(A) *not more than an amount necessary to cover the cost of creating and administering the course; and*

(B) *not more than the average cost of an online driver education course provided in this state, as determined by the commission.*

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 1001, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 1001.1016 to read as follows:

Sec. 1001.1016. ACCOMMODATION FOR DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS. (a) *In this section:*

(1) *"Deaf" means a hearing loss of such severity that an individual must depend on visual methods to communicate.*

(2) *"Hard of hearing" means a loss of hearing function to an individual such that the individual:*

(A) *relies on residual hearing; and*

(B) *may depend on visual methods to communicate.*

(b) *The commission by rule shall require a driver education school providing a driver education course to:*

(1) *in the manner described by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42*

U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq.), make reasonable modifications and provide aids and services when providing the classroom portion of the course that are necessary to ensure that a student who is deaf or hard of hearing may fully participate in the course; and

(2) provide to the department the school's plan for complying with the rules adopted under this section as a condition of obtaining a license under Section 1001.211 or renewing a license under Section 1001.303.

(c) The rules adopted under Subsection (b) must allow a driver education school to comply with the requirements of this section by playing a video that presents the classroom portion of the driver education course in a manner that complies with the requirements of this section.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed the Senate on April 5, 2017: Yeas 28, Nays 2; the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 25, 2017: Yeas 29, Nays 2; passed the House, with amendment, on May 19, 2017: Yeas 143, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Approved June 1, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

INVESTIGATION OF AN ANONYMOUS REPORT OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF A CHILD

CHAPTER 416

S.B. No. 1063

AN ACT

relating to the investigation of an anonymous report of suspected abuse or neglect of a child.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 261.304(b), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) An investigation under this section may include a visit to the child's home, *unless the alleged abuse or neglect can be confirmed or clearly ruled out without a home visit,* [and] an interview with and examination of the child, and an interview with the child's parents. In addition, the department may interview any other person the department believes may have relevant information.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed the Senate on April 19, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 24, 2017: Yeas 146, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Approved June 1, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

CREATION OF THE BLUE ALERT SYSTEM TO AID IN THE APPREHENSION OF AN INDIVIDUAL SUSPECTED OF KILLING OR CAUSING SERIOUS BODILY INJURY TO A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

CHAPTER 417

S.B. No. 1138

AN ACT